

MASSACHUSETTS SALTWATER FISHING DERBY

Rules and Regulations

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Division of Marine Fisheries, will acknowledge catches of outstanding saltwater gamefish that meet certain requirements. Eligible species and minimum qualifying weights are listed below:

Eligible Species	Minimum WT (lbs.)	Eligible Species	Minimum WT (lbs.)
Albacore	30	Mako Shark	150
Bigeye Tuna	100	Pollock	12
Bluefish	12	Porbeagle Shark	150
Bluefin Tuna	500	Scup	2
Blue Shark	300	Sea Bass	4
Bonito	5	Spanish Mackerel	4
Cod	30	Striped Bass	35
Cusk	20	Swordfish	150
Dolphin	15	Tautog	8
False Albacore	10	Thresher Shark	200
Fluke	7	Wahoo	30
Haddock	8	Weakfish	8
Halibut	50	Winterflounder	3
King Mackerel	6	Wolffish	20
Mackerel	2	Yellowfin Tuna	50

At the end of each derby year, trophies will be awarded to anglers who landed the heaviest fish in each species category. Winners will be chosen in three divisions: men, women, and juniors (age fifteen and younger).

The derby runs from March 1 through November 30 each year and is open to all age groups. Fish entered must be caught in a fair and sporting manner on hook and line and must be measured and weighed at an official weigh station on a certified scale. Weighmasters can be found at most local marinas and tackle shops.

To enter, have an official affidavit filled out at a certified weigh-station. Please write clearly and provide all information requested. Affidavits that are illegible or incomplete cannot be accepted. Mail affidavits to: Massachusetts Saltwater Fishing Derby, 50A Portside Drive, Pocasset, MA 02559. Entries must be received within 30 days of catch and be postmarked no later than December 10th.

Special awards are offered for new state records. If your catch exceeds the weight listed on the current list of Massachusetts Saltwater Gamefish Records, you may qualify for a special award. All weigh-stations have been provided with a copy of the current list. When applying for a new state record your affidavit must be accompanied by a clear photograph of your catch with your name, address and telephone number on the back.

